GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TRIBAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1920
ANSWERED ON:15.03.2005
UTILIZATION OF FUNDS FOR TRIBAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEMES
Jogi Shri Ajit

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the States have not utilized Central funds allocated for tribal development schemes during the last three years ;

(b) if so, the names of the States alongwith reasons therefor, State-wise particularly from Chhattisgarh ;and

(c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI P. R. KYNDIAH)

(a) and (b) Funds released by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs to the State Governments/ Union Teiritory Administrations are to be utilized within 12 months from the date of sanction. The utilization position submitted by the States show that most of them including Chhattisgarh have utilized more than 75% of the amount released within the stipulated time limit.

(c) Government has taken several measures to monitor timely and purposeful utilization of funds, which include:-

(i) Receipt of Utilisation Certificates as a pre requisite for further release of funds.

(ii) Periodic progress reports regarding the status of implementation of schemes.

(iii) Central Government Officers undertake on the spot visits to the States/UTs for ascertaining the progress of implementation of schemes.

(iv) Meetings/Conferences are convened at the Central level with the State Secretaries of Tribal Welfare Departments to ensure timely submission of proposals, speed up implementation of schemes, and review physical & financial progress.

(v) At the State/field level, the agencies like Tribal Advisory Council, Project implementation committees of ITDPs and Panchayat Samities also monitor timely spending of funds and effective implementation of schemes.

(vi) To avoid delays in disbursements of funds by the State Plan/Finance and Tribal Welfare Departments, to the line departments/ implementing agencies, the guidelines for allocation and utilization of SCA to TSP has since been revised with the provision of !TDA/ ITDP wise earmarking of SCA funds. It has been provided in the guidelines that all States/UTs should ensure that assessment of actual programmes/schemes implemented under TSP on the socio economic conditions of the tribal covered under ITDPs, MADAs Clusters, PTGs as the case may be, should specificalfy be undertaken.

(vii) In the case of schemes implemented through the Non-Governmental Organisations

(NGOs), funds are released after an assessment of the standing of the NGO, past performance etc. Apart from the periodic progress reports, the NGOs are required to furnish annual accounts and audited reports and utilization certificates on the basis of which further release of funds are made. Inspection of NGOs is also undertaken through State Governments/UT officials and other authorities, and also by the Central Government officers.